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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,442	01/05/2001	Anne E. Robb	PC-930	5126

23717 7590 02/17/2006

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EXAMINER
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GART, MATTHEW S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/755,442	ROBB ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Matthew S. Gart	3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-9,12-14,16,20,23,24,26 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20,26 and 27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-9,12-14,16,23 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election with traverse of Invention I in the reply filed on 2/13/2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the Examiner has not stated that separate searches and separate examiners and separate art units are necessary to examine these inventions. This is not found persuasive because the Examiner did state that the inventions were distinct and the search for Invention I were not required for the other inventions. Furthermore, the applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

### **Prosecution History Summary**

- Claims 3-5, 10-11, 17-19, 21-22, 25 were cancelled in the instant invention.
- Claims 20 and 26-27 were withdrawn from consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention.
- Claims 1, 2, 6-9, 12-14, 16, 20, 23-24 and 26-27 are currently pending in the instant application.
- Claims 1, 2, 6-9, 12-14, 16 and 23-24 are currently rejected in the instant application

***Claim Objections***

Claim 1 and all claims dependent upon claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: The word "inputing" in claim 1, line 26, is spelled incorrectly. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claims 1-2, 7-8 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Showghi (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,739).**

Referring to claim 1. Showghi discloses a method of accessing classification information on a web based system through handheld display devices, until a finite selection point is achieved without inputting any search queries, comprising the steps of:

- Providing a handheld display device that is selected from at least one of a pager, a cell phone, and a PDA (Showghi: column 3, lines 1-5);

Art Unit: 3625

- Accessing and viewing a web site having a first main menu page of category headings by a user on the handheld device (Showghi: column 5, lines 40-48, "Major Item Classification Menu **34**");
- First selecting and viewing at least one of the category headings on the first main menu page on the handheld display device (Showghi: Fig. 4, "Major Item Classification Menu **34**, Selection 3");
- Accessing and viewing a second menu page having first subcategory headings from the first selecting step on the handheld display device (Showghi: column 5, lines 40-48, "Drink Menu **36**");
- Second selecting and viewing at least one of the first subcategory headings on the handheld display device (Showghi: Fig. 4, "Drink Menu **36**, Selection 2");
- Accessing and viewing a third menu page having second subcategory headings from the second selecting step on the handheld display device, the second subcategory headings being solely listed in a single vertical column on the third menu page with separate second subcategory headings solely on each line (Showghi: column 5, lines 40-48, "sub-menu **38**");
- Third Selecting and viewing at least one of the second subcategory headings by scrolling down the single vertical column on the third menu page on the handheld display device (Showghi: Fig. 4, "sub-menu **38**, How many 4");
- Repeating accessing and selecting and viewing by solely scrolling down only one single vertical column on each successive menu page on the handheld display device, until the user reaches an end of a menu series to a finite selection list of

a classification that is listed in a single vertical column, wherein interaction of the accessing of the first page, the second page, the third page, and the first selecting, the second selecting and the third selecting are navigated on the handheld display device without inputting any search queries (Showghi: Fig. 3a-3d and Fig. 4); and

- Viewing the single column of the finite selection list of the classification by scrolling down the finite selection list on the handheld display device, without the inputting of any search queries (Showghi: column 7, lines 17-34).

Referring to claim 2. Showghi further discloses a method of accessing classification information wherein the steps of accessing of the first page, the second page, the third page, and the first selecting, the second selecting and the third selecting include the user navigating each accessing and selecting step by voice command using the handheld display device (Showghi: column 4, lines 25-37).

Referring to claim 7. Showghi discloses a method wherein the first subcategory headings include headings for: makes, items, and services (Showghi: Fig. 4).

Referring to claim 8. Showghi further discloses a method of accessing classification information comprising the step of solely listing the first subcategory headings on the second menu page in a single vertical column and selecting from the single vertical column of the first subcategory by scrolling down there through (Showghi: column 5, lines 40-48, "sub-menu **38**").

Art Unit: 3625

Referring to claim 12. Showghi further discloses a method wherein the user is at least one of: a buyer and seller, each user having an interest in at least one of: a good, a make, an item, and a service (Showghi: Fig. 2).

Referring to claim 13. Showghi further discloses a method wherein the classification information includes: advertisements by sellers, each of the sellers listings at least one of: goods, makes, items and services (Showghi: column 8, lines 23-32).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 6, 9, 14 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Showghi (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,739) in view of Bidz (PTO-892, Ref U).**

Referring to claim 6. Showghi discloses a method according to claim 1 as indicated supra. Showghi does not expressly disclose a method of accessing classification information wherein the category headings include: Headings for: agriculture, aircraft, automobiles, boats, heavy equipment, heavy trucks, industrial, medical, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, and sport utility vehicles and vans.

Bidz discloses a method of accessing classification information wherein the category headings include: Headings for: agriculture, aircraft, automobiles, boats,

Art Unit: 3625

heavy equipment, heavy trucks, industrial, medical, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, and sport utility vehicles and vans (Bidz: page 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Showghi to have included a plurality of headings as taught by Bidz because the inclusion of such headings would have been an obvious matter of design choice in light of the method already disclosed by Showghi. Such modification would not have otherwise affected the method of Showghi and would have merely represented one of numerous steps that the skilled artisan would have found obvious for the purposes already disclosed by Showghi. Additionally, applicant has not persuasively demonstrated the criticality of providing these specific headings versus the headings disclosed by Showghi.

Referring to claim 9. Showghi discloses a method according to claim 1 as indicated supra. Bidz further discloses a method comprising the step of solely filtering and sorting the finite selection list of the classification into a filtered and sorted list; and viewing the filtered and sorted list, wherein filtering and sorting only occurs at the finite selection (Bidz: page 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified the method of Showghi to have included the teachings of Bidz in order to allow patrons to review available tangible and intangible items (Showghi: column 2, lines 40-45).

Referring to claim 14. Showghi discloses a method according to claim 13 as indicated supra. Bidz further discloses a method comprising the step of requesting an



Art Unit: 3625

unlisted item from the web based system by a buyer-user, the unlisted item being for at least of: a good, a make, an item and a service (Bidz: page 5)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified the method of Showghi to have included the teachings of Bidz in order to allow patrons to review available tangible and intangible items (Showghi: column 2, lines 40-45).

Referring to claim 23. Claim 23 is rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claim 1 and 9.

**Claim 16 and 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Showghi (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,739) in view of Bidz (PTO-892, Ref U) in further view of Wolfe (U.S. Patent No. 6,282,517).**

Referring to claim 16. Showghi in view of Bidz discloses a method according to claim 14 as indicated supra. Wolfe discloses instantly notifying the buyer-user when the unlisted item has been placed by a seller-user on the web based system, which matches the unlisted item; and allowing the buyer-user to purchase the unlisted item from the seller-user (Wolfe: column 16, lines 20-45).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have provided the method and system of Showghi in view of Bidz to have incorporated a method and system of the type demonstrated by Wolfe in order to submit a purchase request over a computer network and make said purchase request available immediately to a dealer (Wolfe: abstract).

Referring to claim 24. Claims 24 is rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1, 14 and 16.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to all the rejected claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew S. Gart whose telephone number is 571-273-3955. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on 571-272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 09/755,442

Page 10

Art Unit: 3625

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'MSG' followed by a stylized flourish.

MSG

Patent Examiner

February 13, 2006